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23 Nov

EXTRACT FROM MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD, dated 18 November 1954,
Subject: Clark Committee Survey, by AD/O

Mr. Kirkpatrick stated that the DCI now seemed more amenable to a CIA Congressional Watchdog Committee with possibly three or four from each side of Congress. He stated that he felt that it would be desirable if the Committee members could be appointed by the Vice President and the Speaker of the House and asked me to come up with some ideas on the subject. I talked to Mr. Pforzheimer about this and the first thing he asked me was whether I had read his memorandum on why there should be no Congressional Watchdog Committee. I told him that I had not and, as far as I was concerned, his memorandum was beside the point and asked him to think it over and give me any suggestions as to how we could best phrase a recommendation by the Clark Committee which would provide us with a Congressional Committee with or without legislation. Mr. Pforzheimer says that he believes that members of the Appropriations Committee would not want to serve on a CIA Watchdog Committee because they would be faced with approving appropriations for an Agency over which they had peculiar knowledge and possibly could not go into detail. He felt that the best selection would be from the Armed Services Committee. This, of course, would have an element of seniority in it as members of the Appropriations Committee are on it by virtue of seniority. Mr. Pforzheimer feels that there is no way that the Vice President and the Speaker of the House can ever side-step seniority in appointing either chairmen or members and that, even if new legislation were introduced authorizing them to do so, they would still be subject to political patronage. Mr. Pforzheimer's statement to me that the present arrangement, if given more power or standing, would be adequate is not, to me, the solution because, although Saltonstall, if properly briefed, could intercede for us, we cannot always count on having a friend at court as matters now stand. I asked Mr. Pforzheimer to give this matter some thought with a view to a further discussion in the near future.

Mr. Kirkpatrick talked with Mr. Carey about this, and assigned the function to me without further reference to Carey.
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